

Amendments to the Specification:

Page 3, under Description of the Drawings, after line 21, please insert the following:

Figure 6d is a side view of a further alternative embodiment of a segment of the bend restriction means of Figure 4;

Page 6, please replace the first paragraph with the following replacement paragraph:

Figure 4 shows an alternative embodiment of the invention as shown in Figure 1. In this embodiment, the bend restriction means 16 comprises bend restrictor segments 18 as shown in Figures 6a, 6b, and 6c, and 6d. The bend restrictor segments 18 are secured by flexible elongate members 24 and function to restrict bending of the lengths of pipeline 14 generally as described previously. While the bend restrictor segments 18 do not have the hemispherical ends 22 of the bend restrictor segments 18 shown in Figures 2 and 3, the longitudinally opposed ends 31 perform the same function. The bend restrictor segments 18 each comprise a frame 30 supporting an internal flotation module 32. The frame 30 comprises a cylinder or a prism having a cross section of any suitable shape. For example, the frame 30 of Figure 5b comprises a hexagonal prism and the frame 30 of Figure 5c comprises a rectangular prism. The flotation modules 32 are located inside the frame 30 along the longitudinal axis of the bend restrictor segment 18. Each of the bend restrictor segments 18 is connected to adjacent bend restrictor segments 18 by flexible elongate members 24 connected between the

adjacent ends of the flotation modules 32. In this embodiment, separate flotation modules are therefore not required.